

City of Tupelo

Todd Jordan Mayor

March 29, 2023

COUNCIL

Chad Mims Ward One

Lynn Bryan Ward Two

Travis Beard Ward Three

Nettie Y. Davis Ward Four

Buddy Palmer Ward Five

Janet Gaston Ward Six

Rosie Jones Ward Seven Congressman Trent Kelly 2243 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Re: City of Tupelo Real Time Intelligence Center

Dear Congressman Trent Kelly,

On behalf of The City of Tupelo, I am writing in support of funding to construct a new Real Time Intelligence Center (RTIC). RTIC will combine advanced policing technologies such as surveillance cameras, license plate readers (LPRs), GPS location of body cameras (BWCs), vehicle cameras and mobile surveillance trailers. This project will enhance Tupelo's surveillance and information gathering and sharing capabilities. The project improves productivity by moving more operations online in real time, saving valuable time in processes and tasks. RTIC will also improve local and regional communications with other law enforcement personnel and agencies.

At the local level, RTIC allows for greater coordination between City and County emergency officials for a seamless response to threats and hazards throughout our area. Funding towards the RTIC will close existing gaps in mission areas such as response and recovery, public information, operational coordination and communication, intelligence and information sharing, situational assessment and mass search and rescue operations.

LPRs will compare license plates against those of stolen cars or cars being driven with suspected people involved in a criminal act. Mobile surveillance trailers will provide assistance monitoring large crowds such as festivals, protests and riots. BWCs will provide police location in real time broadening response capabilities to citizens and providing safety to officers and citizens. Surveillance cameras will serve various hot spot areas in our communities allowing for intervention, mitigation and proper prosecution of serious crimes. Any other devices will only

aid in the enhancement of our overall prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery for our City.

The City of Tupelo views this project as a high priority in raising the city to the level of preparedness needed to protect and save lives and property. The project allows the city to enhance daily operations and continue operations during times of disaster. This facility will be invaluable to those within the jurisdiction.

As mayor, I am committed to the health, safety and welfare of our citizens. I firmly believe the Real Time Intelligence Center is well worth the investment of additional commitment and resources. Should you have any additional questions or require further information about this funding request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Todd Jordan, Mayor City of Tupelo, Mississippi



March 29, 2023

The Honorable Trent Kelly United States House of Representatives 2243 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Tupelo Virtual Command Center

Dear Congressman Kelly:

On behalf of the Tupelo Convention & Visitors Bureau Board, please accept this letter of support for the City of Tupelo Police Department in their application for assistance in establishing a Virtual Command Center.

The City of Tupelo Police Department provides citizens and visitors to our community the protection and support needed to make people feel safe and the resources requested in this application will provide a greater level of protection. If your community isn't safe, then people will not want to live, work, or play there and those three things are vital to our economy. We have made a great investment in our recreation and downtown areas to provide places for people to gather and the security and safety of those people is always top of mind in any of our planning.

In closing, supporting this project for the City of Tupelo Police Department will have far reaching effects on the long term economy of our city insuring that people feel safe and choose to live in or visit our five time All America City.

Sincerely.

Neal McCoy Executive Director

Tupelo Convention & Visitors Bureau



LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

JIM H. JOHNSON SHERIFF



John A. Hall Chief Deputy

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Trent Kelly United States House of Representatives 2243 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

RE: License Plate Reader, Surveillance Cameras, and a Mobile Surveillance Trailer for Special Events

Dear Congressman Kelly:

On my behalf as Sheriff of Lee County, MS, I am writing this letter in support of the Tupelo Police Department proposal for a license plate reader, surveillance cameras, and a mobile surveillance trailer for special events. This funding will allow the Tupelo Police Department to purchase equipment that is necessary in the prevention of a crime and measures that will help our community remain a safe place.

I am certain that the Tupelo Police Department will benefit from this modern technology. If you require any further information, feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely.

Jim H. Johnson

Sheriff

Bill Benson

Lee County Chancery Clerk & County Administrator
PO Box 7127
Tupelo, MS 38802
662-432-2110

March 29, 2023

The Honorable Trent Kelly 2243 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC. 20515

RE: Real-Time Intelligence Center

Dear Representative Kelly:

This letter is to express support for the real-time intelligence center for the City of Tupelo Police Department. Any funds appropriated would be used for license plate readers, surveillance cameras and a mobile surveillance trailer for special events. These additions to the police force would greatly enhance the ability to access information quickly and share it with other agencies when a crime occurs. This equipment will not only aid the Tupelo Police Department, but also the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

This project will be very beneficial to law enforcement and the citizens of Tupelo and Lee County. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Benson

Lee County Chancery Clerk/County Administrator



March 29, 2023

Honorable Trent Kelley United States House of Representatives 2243 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D. C. 20515

SUBJECT: Tupelo Police Department Request for Equipment

Please allow this letter to commend, endorse, and support the City of Tupelo Police Department's and Chief John Quaka's request for \$500,000 in funding for the license plate readers, surveillance cameras, and a mobile surveillance trailer for numerous special events and policing taking place in the City of Tupelo.

As one of the most economically diverse cities in Mississippi with two regionally headquartered banks, a number of manufacturing operations, and the nation's largest rural hospital, Tupelo is a hub for economic growth and activity. Chief Quaka and the City of Tupelo Police Department support that growth and development and work hard to keep citizens and property safe and harm free.

In addition, the thousands of visitors to the Elvis Presley Birthplace make it one of the top tourist attractions in the State of Mississippi with visitors from all fifty states and many foreign countries such as the Netherlands, England, Germany, Canada, and many more. A safe environment for tourism and commerce is vital for continued prosperity and these enhancements to law enforcement will go a long way in maintaining a civil environment.

These law enforcement improvements will help make our City of Tupelo Police Department enforcement more effective and efficient in the future and will aid in keeping the peace in our community. Please consider favorably this funding request.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

David P. Rumbanger

President/CEO